

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 OPIC-03 EB-08 AID-05 COME-00

SS-15 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 NSC-05

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8537

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5560

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EINV, OPIC,LI

SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP TO LIBERIAN MEETING WITH US INVESTORS: (FOREIGN MINISTER DENNIS' CALL ON AMBASSADOR YOUNG)

REF: A. MONROVIA 8296; B. STATE 295319

1. SUMMARY: DURING 45 MINUTE COURTESY CALL ON AMB YOUNG, DECEMBER 9, LIBERIAN FOMIN DENNIS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR MISSION'S HOSTING OF DECEMBER 8 MEETING (REFTEL B.); NOTED NEED TO PROMOTE ANNUAL INVESTMENT MEETINGS; INVITED AMB YOUNG AND PRESIDENT CARTER TO MONROVIA; AND REITERATED LIBERIA'S REQUEST FOR "MINIMAL" US ASSISTANCE TO LIBERIA FOR THE OAU SUMMIT THERE IN 1979. END SUMMARY.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER DENNIS WAS EFFUSIVE IN LAUDING MISSION AND OPIC EFFORTS FOR SUCCESSFUL MEETING WITH US BUSINESSMEN DECEMBER 8. DENNIS OBSERVED THAT SEVERAL POSITIVE CONTACTS WITH NEW SOURCES OF INVESTMENT HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED AND HE WISHED TO PURSUE "MOMENTUM" OF MEETING. IN THIS VEIN AND "OWING TO SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN US AND LIBERIA", DENNIS SUGGESTED ANNUAL LIBERIAN INVESTMENT MEETINGS BE HELD IN THE US IN CITIES SUCH AS CHICAGO AND LOS ANGELES.

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AMB YOUNG AGREED IN PRINCIPLE AND NOTED SEEDS FOR ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT IN LIBERIA WERE SOWN DURING DECEMBER 8 MEETING. HOWEVER, LIBERIANS SHOULD COORDINATE FUTURE INVESTMENT INTEREST THROUGH EMB MONROVIA AND OPIC. COMMENT: MISOFF PROVIDED FOMIN WITH ANNOTATED LIST OF INVITEES TO DECEMBER 8 SESSION, EARMARKING MOST LIKELY INVESTORS. END COMMENT.

3. DENNIS THEN NOTED PRESIDENT TOLBERT LOOKED FORWARD TO ANNUAL BAPTIST CONVENTION IN MONROVIA DURING LAST TWO WEEKS OF MARCH 1978. DENNIS INDICATED THAT PRESIDENT HAD CONVEYED SPECIAL REGARDS TO AMB YOUNG AND SUGGESTED AMB YOUNG VISIT MONROVIA DURING CONVENTION. AMB YOUNG REPLIED THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO VISIT LIBERIA DURING 1978 AND HE HOPED TO PLAN SUCH A TRIP DURING FIRST TWO WEEKS IN APRIL. BARRING UNFORSEEN EVENTS, THIS TRIP WOULD PROBABLY BE COORDINATED WITH THE SWING THROUGH NORTH AFRICA. THE FOREIGN MINISTER WAS MOST APPRECIATIVE AND REQUESTED HE BE INFORMED WHENEVER DETAILS U FOLD. DENNIS ALSO BRIEFLY REPEATED LIBERIA'S HOPE THAT PRESIDENT CARTER VISIT LIBERIA "EVEN FOR A FEW HOURS" IF AND WHEN HIS TRIP TO AFRICA IS RESURRECTED.

4. IN CLOSING, DENNIS DREW MISSION ATTENTION TO LIBERIAN PLANS TO HOST OAU SUMMIT AT MONROVIA IN 1979. NOTING LIBERIA'S INADEQUATE HOTEL SPACE, ROAD TRANSPORTATION AND AIRPORT FACILITIES, HE ASKED FOR "MINIMAL" USG ASSISTANCE IN PREPARING FOR SUMMIT. SPECIFICALLY, DENNIS FOCUSSED ON RECENT AIDE MEMOIRE SUBMITTED AT EMBASSY MONROVIA, OUTLINING REQUEST FOR (A) MODERNIZATION OF ROADWAYS AROUND MONROVIA; (B) "A FEW HELICOPTERS FOR INTERNAL SECURITY"; (C) EXPANSION OF AIRPORT FACILITIES. PARENTHETICALLY, DENNIS NOTED MONIMAL AID REQUEST HAD ALSO BEEN MADE OF GERMANS--AND THEY HAD BEEN COOPERATIVE AND AGREEABLE. HE HOPED US WOULD FOLLOW SUIT.
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4. ACTION REQUESTED: FOR DEPT AND MONROVIA: FOREIGN MINISTER DENNIS WOULD LIKE STATUS REPORT CONCERNING SUBSTANCE AID REQUESTS IN PARA FOUR ABOVE.
YOUNG

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Sent Date: 12-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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